

**SECRET**  
**TRIAL FOR**  
**MI5 MAN**

By IAN HENRY  
Old Bailey Correspondent

**A** FORTHCOMING Old Bailey spy trial featuring a middle-ranking MI5 officer will be held almost entirely in secret, it was learned yesterday.

Only a short part of the prosecuting opening speech by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, and the verdict, is likely to be held in open court.

The trial of Michael Bettaney, of Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey, on six spying charges, is due to begin on April 10. It is expected to last at least eight days.

Bettaney appeared at the Old Bailey yesterday amid tight security for a pre-trial review before the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane.

**Public barred**

The four-hour hearing was held in camera with Press and the public excluded. The court windows were boarded up and the doors were locked.

It was after the hearing ended that it was learned that all but small part of the trial and the verdict will be held in camera. It is believed defence lawyers opposed the application by the prosecution.

Bettaney faces charges accusing him of collecting and passing information calculated to be or which might be useful to an enemy.

17 Feb

# MI5 officer's lawyers lose challenge to secret hearing

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The public and the press are to be excluded from almost the entire trial of Michael Bettaney, the MI5 officer facing espionage charges, the Central Criminal Court decided in camera yesterday.

When Mr Bettaney, aged 33, of Coulsdon, Surrey, starts his trial on April 10 with not guilty pleas, the jury will be sworn in, the charges put and Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General, will open the Crown's case but then the rest of the case will be in camera.

Mr Bettaney's solicitor, Mr Lawrence Grant, said after the hearing before the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, that the court would not be opened again until the jury returned its verdicts.

The trial is expected to last eight working days and all the evidence, witnesses, the judge's summing up, and much of counsels' speeches will be behind closed doors.

Mr Grant said the use of the in-camera process to such an extent was unprecedented and had been agreed by the judge after an application by Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecutions. Other decisions had also been taken.

Mr Grant said that defence

counsel had argued against the DDP's application in a hearing which lasted nearly four hours in court number one. The hearing, listed to take practice trial directions, began in chambers and was then moved into camera.

Mr Bettaney was brought from Brixton prison for the hearing. He was represented in court by Mr Michael Mansfield and Mr Kenneth Richardson appeared for the Crown. Sup John Westcott, from the Special Branch, was also in court.

The application of in camera proceedings so widely is likely to cause concern in legal circles.



Mr Bettaney: Facing six charges.

There is no means of appeal for the defence until the case has been completed.

Mr Bettaney faces a total of six charges under the Official Secrets Acts of 1911 and 1920. It is alleged that he passed on details of British assessments of the Soviet Union's intelligence networks in Britain, details of the expulsion of three Russians, and prepared other material to hand over to the Russians in 1983.

It is unusual for a defendant in such a case to plead not guilty but where it has happened in recent years, such as in the trial of Professor Hugh Hambleton in 1982, the court went into camera for only part of the case.

In cases where the accused have pleaded guilty, such as Geoffrey Prime, part of the hearings were heard in camera. The periods have covered areas such as an assessment of the damage done to national security. In Security Service, Special Intelligence Service, and M16 witnesses.

After the hearing yesterday a spokesman for the DPP said he was unable to comment on what had happened at the hearing or the potential use of the in camera practice.



Benjie Leggate, aged six, with 1 (Ph

## Gatecrasher in tussle at royal event

By Richard Evans

A man in his early thirties tried to force his way into the Royal Society of Arts headquarters in London yesterday minutes before the Prince of Wales arrived for the launching of a £500,000 appeal for the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Trust.

The man approached the reception desk, where Miss Lesley Sands asked for his invitation.

The man, who was wearing an extraordinary green wool tea cosy hat and had a chain tucked into his trousers, refused to produce an invitation as said he represented a lot of

wouldn't show any identification. He kept trying to hang up his coat and leave his briefcase. He hadn't got an invitation card and I said that I was sorry but he had to leave."

The man, wearing a smart grey suit, soon became violent and the police were called.

One policeman was punched in the face and three officers lost their helmets as the man was dragged struggling and protesting from the front foyer and into the rear of the van. When he reached the van five policemen were restraining him.

## BBC wins news awards

The BBC won the Royal Television Society's domestic news award last night for its coverage of the resignation of Cecil Parkinson. Mr John Tuss, of the BBC *Newsnight*, won the award for television journalist of the year.

Other winners were: *Coast to Coast* (TVS), daily news magazine; ITN, international news for its Beirut coverage; *TV Eye* (Thames), home current affairs for *Here Come Cruise, Panorama* (BBC), international news affairs, for *Called To Account - How Roberto Calvi Died*. A special commendation, went to Peter Hill.

## Riders bring in £4,000 for charity

Once a year the Leggate family of Gordon in Berwick raises funds for such local charities as the Edinburgh Eye Pavillion.

The last effort, a 20 mile sponsored horseback ride by people who had not ridden for 10 years, raised £4,000. Benjie Leggate, aged six, raised £200 with his sister Kate, aged nine, his pony Doughnut and a friend's Great Dane called

Benjie's father Mr Peter Leggate, said yesterday: "We were very happy with the proceeds but if

You receive they do of such court; a repo Nation Care Offend It sa somei and ur of cr pejora never court.

in secret

The Old Bailey trial of Michael Bettaney, a middle-ranking MI5 officer, will be held almost entirely in secret.

Bettaney, aged 33, who faces six charges of spying, appeared yesterday amid tight security in number one court at the Old Bailey before Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice. The hearing immediately went into camera.

Courts normally only go into camera when matters of national security are being dealt with and legal experts believe that holding a spy trial in conditions of such secrecy is without precedent in peacetime.

Afterwards it was learned that all the trial, except a small part of the prosecution's opening speech by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, and the verdict would be held in camera.

mented: "The need for a major programme of public investment is plain for all to see."

The white paper is likely to generate controversy on the grounds that the figures for public spending over the next three years (£126.4 billion in 1984/5, £132 billion in 1985/86 and £136.7 billion in 1986/87 would have been much higher but for £2 billion a year of asset sales (plus another near £1 billion for council house disposals) and the £2.5 billion burden imposed on public corporations to rid themselves of their borrowing.

The Commons Treasury select committee has criticised the way these accounting devices show that government spending is lower than it is.

The planned total for spending also excludes payments of interest on debt, which has been one of the fastest growing areas in recent years, having risen by £1 billion in the

over £200 million expected next year. Shadow Chancellor, described the white paper as "complacent and callous" and a continuation of the policy which had done so much damage over the past four years. The national Union of

real terms. Mr Doug Mcavoy, deputy general secretary, said the proposals spelled disaster for the nation's schools. "Parents will be in no doubt who to blame for the larger classes, fewer books and poorer facilities in schools over the next three years."

# Rising curve of military spending to level off

By David Fairhall, Defence Correspondent

A LONG period of rising military expenditure will come to an end in 1986-7, according to the Government's latest forecast, when the Defence Ministry's cash budget will barely keep pace with the rate of inflation.

Even on the optimistic Treasury assumption built into the Defence Ministry's figures—that by then the annual rate of inflation will have fallen to only 3 per cent—its budget shows little real growth: half a per cent in total expenditure and 1 per cent if the cost of the Falklands garrison is excluded. The Government will therefore take immediate advantage of its decision to abandon the voluntary Nato commitment to continued 3 per cent real growth from 1986.

When the question of the Nato commitment was raised in Cabinet the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, made no serious effort to defend it through into the late 1980s; presumably taking the view that Britain would already have done its bit for the alliance by maintaining a rising budget for so long — especially when faced with

the extra burden of the Falklands.

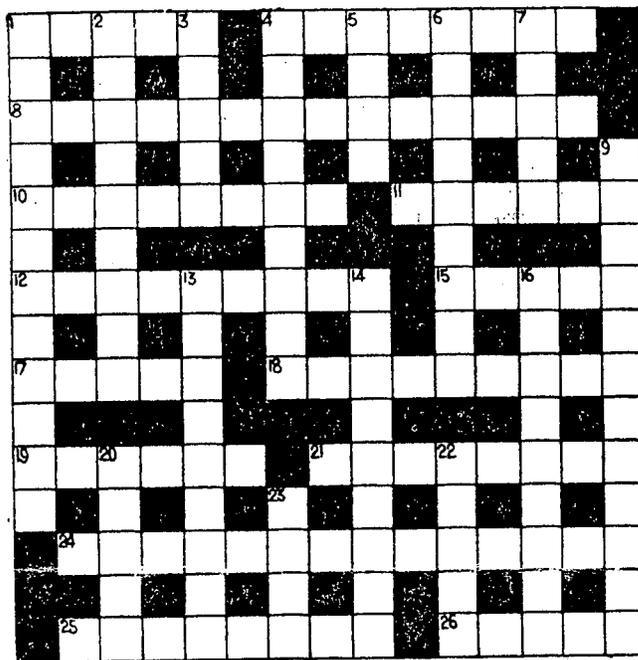
Next year's defence budget — excluding the £684 million that will be spent on replacing equipment lost in the South Atlantic war and building up the garrison — will rise by 3½ per cent after allowing for inflation, and the following year's by another 3 per cent.

In cash terms, which is now Whitehall now does its book-keeping, military expenditure will rise to an estimated £18,660 million in 1986-87, of which £450 million will still have to be spent on the Falklands garrison plus any residual war costs. That is nearly £3 billion more than this year's cash figure of £15,716 million.

The armed services minister, Mr John Stanley, acknowledged yesterday that if his department was to avoid renewed financial pressure on its many programmes — which some analysts predict will lead to another defence policy review by the late 1980s — the Government must succeed in keeping the general rate of inflation down, and that the prices of military equipment must not be allowed to rise faster than the general rate.

## GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 16,853

CUSTOS



### ACROSS

- 1 Immature creature derived from the caterpillar, variegated (5).
- 4 Ancient leaf-like ornament a friend came across, we hear (8).
- 8 Mark accountant's put back on pamphlet, makes a deal legal (5, 1, 8).
- 10 Like a madman in the South, at one Cambridgeshire town (8).
- 11 Prince of Wales, say, gets his mother a jumper (6).
- 12 Hypothetical article unsatisfactory to Eric (9).
- 15 Go round in space — circle right part (5).
- 17 Artist's last words seen in the files (5).
- 18 A lot of papers — 50 — lying in a ditch? That's fanciful (5-4).

- 19 More than one gentleman has rejected one surgeon (6).
- 21 Pedal supports, to stimulate and urge on when returning (8).
- 24 Seascape artists? They may be well-supplied (7, 2, 5).
- 25 My love is holding drunkard's plant (8).
- 26 Prepare to come into line (5).

### DOWN

- 1 Become bored, as one will when closing an account? (4, 8)
- 2 Lists soldier among those taking their ease (9).
- 3 Sun, rising, has child burning (5).
- 4 Gambled, but losing capital, embezzled (9).
- 5 Give temporary use of long object (4).
- 6 A crawler arouses more
- 7 Assess, as they say, changes in course (5).
- 9 Things in the Louvre, perhaps, can make true BA

## THE WEATHER

### Cloudy with showers

A RIDGE of high pressure over S Britain, but a weak trough of low pressure affects N areas.

London, SE, Cent S, E and Cent N England, E Anglia, Midlands, Channel Islands: Rather cloudy. Any mist and fog patches thinning to give hazy sunshine. Wind S to SE light or moderate. Max temp 3 to 5C (57-41F).

SW and NW England, Wales: Rather cloudy. A little drizzle over windward coasts and hills dying out. Some bright intervals in sheltered places. Wind S, moderate, occasionally fresh. Max 5-7C (41-45F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, SW Scotland, W Ireland: Light rain or drizzle dying out. Rather cloudy but some bright intervals developing. Wind S to SW, fresh or strong. Max 5-7C (41-45F). Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth: Mostly dry. Rather cloudy but some bright intervals developing. Wind S to SW, strong. Max 5-7C (41-45F).

NE and NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy. Isolated light showers. Wind S or SW, strong locally gale. Max 6-8C (43-46F).

Outlook: Rather cold and dry in S and E. Cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle in N and W, and near normal temperatures.

### AROUND THE WORLD LUNCH-TIME REPORTS

	C	F		C	F
Amsterdam	Fg	-3 27	Luxembourg	C	-1 30
Athens	S	10 50	Madrid	S	8 46
Bahrain	S	20 68	Majorca	S	12 54
Barbados	F	27 81	Malaga	S	14 57
Barcelona	F	11 52	Manchester	S	0 32
Belgrade	F	-4 25	Melbourne	S	22 72
Beirut	F	16 61	Mexico C	S	20 68
Berlin	F	27 72	Miami	F	26 79
Bermuda	S	27 72	Montreal	S	-4 25
Birmingham	C	-1 30	Moscow	F	7 19
Boston	S	10 50	Munich	F	19 66
Bristol	F	2 36	Nairobi	S	30 86
Brussels	S	-3 27	Newcastle	S	0 32
Budapest	S	-1 30	New Delhi	S	21 70
Buenos Aires	S	31 88	New York	S	14 57
Cape Town	S	32 90	Oporto	S	14 57
Cardiff	S	2 36	Oslo	S	-2 28
Cologne	S	14 57	Paris	F	0 32
Cork	S	12 54	Peking	F	-1 30
Dublin	S	7 45	Perth	S	28 82
Dubrovnik	S	8 46	Prague	S	-4 25
Edinburgh	S	6 43	Reykjavik	S	3 37
Faro	S	15 59	Rhodes	S	13 55
Frankfurt	S	-1 30	Rio de Jan	S	30 86
Funchal	S	16 61	Riyadh	S	23 79
Geneva	S	-1 30	Saizburg	S	-4 25
Gibraltar	F	14 57	Seoul	F	0 32
Glasgow	F	7 45	Singapore	S	26 79
Helsinki	S	-2 28	Stockholm	S	0 32
Hong Kong	C	16 61	Sydney	S	28 82
Innsbruck	S	-2 28	Tel-Aviv	F	17 63
Inverness	S	8 46	Tenerife	S	18 64
Istanbul	S	6 43	Tokyo	S	6 43
Jo'burg	S	28 82	Toronto	S	4 25
Larnaca	S	24 75	Vancouver	S	2 36
La Paz	S	18 64	Vienna	S	-4 25
Lisbon	S	11 52	Warsaw	S	-6 21
Locarno	S	2 36	Washington	S	10 50
London	S	2 36	Wellington	S	17 63
Los Angeles	F	16 61	Zurich	S	14 57

C, cloudy; F, fair; Fo, fog; R, rain; S, sunny; Sn, snow; P, patches. Vert runs 1,800ft. Hill and main roads clear. Snow level 1,800ft.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION 16,852

REJECTIONSUIT

Approved For Release 2005/08/03 : CIA-RDP96B01777R000300020018-6

*Guardian*  
17 Feb

*18 Feb*

# HOME NEWS

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### TV-am gets its new deal

TV-am reached agreement with its technicians yesterday on changes of working practices which will make the £2 million savings the company demanded.

The technicians' union ACTT, which agreed in principle on Friday of last week to the changes in working practices, had a meeting yesterday afternoon. The 160 technicians agreed to alter their shift system from five days on, five days off, to four days on, three days off, and accepted the principle of natural wastage as a means of reducing the number of workers.

The agreement follows TV-am's withdrawal of its original redundancy proposals, presented as the only alternative if working methods were not altered.

### Old Bailey secrets trial

An airman accused under the Official Secrets Act will be tried at the Old Bailey on July 9. The Director of Public Prosecutions office could not say whether part of the proceedings would be held in secret.

Paul John Davies, aged 21, who was based in RAF Episkopi, Cyprus, is charged under section one of the Act with passing a confidential Nato signal to Eva Marie Gazi Jaar.

### Gatecrash man on damage charge

CHRISTOPHER James Yeo, aged 30, unemployed, of Aberdeen Road, Croydon, London, who tried to gatecrash a function attended by Prince Charles, was yesterday remanded in custody for medical reports, charged with damaging a police van.

Mr Yeo was earlier dragged shouting from the Bow Street court dock after refusing to be bound over on a breach of the peace charge.

**Answer sought**

## Fowler gives strong

The Social Services Secretary, Mr Norman Fowler yesterday handed out the first government "goody" of the Chesterfield byelection campaign when he gave the strongest possible hint that pay recommendations from the nurses and midwives review body would be put into effect.

Mr Fowler, speaking in support of the Tory candidate, Mr Nicholas Bourne, said: "We haven't set up the review body in order to reject its findings."

Pressed for a firmer assurance, he replied: "You can take comfort from the words I have said."

The previous evening, Mr Bourne, like the Labour and Liberal candidates, had spoken about the National Health Service problems at a meeting

### Dennis Johnson sees the first government

organised by the Royal College of Nursing.

He took clear encouragement from Mr Fowler's words and told his morning press conference: "I am satisfied with what the minister has said. They are not pledged to implement the findings, but I am perfectly satisfied that we have been given a clear indication that they will be."

Mr Fowler implied that the Government was ready to reward nurses for not striking during the 1982 health service dispute.

"We want to recognise that position — we don't want them to lose out," he said.

The review body was set up by Mr Fowler during the dis-

pute in recognition of a claim that wages had fallen well below the rate of inflation.

Mr Fowler said that the Public Expenditure white paper published on Thursday, showed the Government committed to the NHS. Spending on service would rise from £1 billion in 1983/84 to more than £18 billion in 1986/87.

"So far from failing to honour our election pledge as Labour claimed we were — this is an increase on what was promised by the Prime Minister at the last election," he said.

The Liberal leader, David Steel, who went campaigning in Chesterfield last

### Budget day broadcast could provoke a stand

## BBC staff may black Dimbleby

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

The broadcaster Mr David Dimbleby may be blacked by the National Union of Journalists if the BBC goes ahead with its proposal to use him as presenter of the Budget coverage on March 13. The NUJ Lime Grove current affairs chapel committee will meet tomorrow to consider a proposal that its members should boycott Mr Dimbleby on Budget day because of his use of the Government's employment legislation against 13 striking NUJ members employed by his newspaper group in west London.

The full chapel will discuss the boycott on Monday. Mr John Foster, the NUJ broadcasting officer, said yesterday: "The BBC's intention to use Mr Dimbleby is provocative and insensitive." The decision to boycott will be the BBC's own guidelines issued to staff on the need for journalists to retain the corporation's

primand given under the guidelines to a freelance journalist employed by BBC Cardiff who had attended a CND demonstration.

Mr Foster said that if the Lime Grove chapel voted to black Mr Dimbleby the union's emergency committee would meet to endorse the decision before Mr Dimbleby's proposed budget appearance.

The BBC said that no final decision had been taken to use Mr Dimbleby on the budget. He works as a freelance, although he was used by the corporation to cover the funeral of Mr Andropov. Mr Foster said he had been told by the BBC on Wednesday that Mr Dimbleby would definitely be used on the budget day.

Mr Dimbleby's recourse to the courts has forced the NUJ to drop its support for strike action by 13 NUJ members at the Dimbleby Newspaper. The Dimbleby Newspaper transferred the printing of its four west London papers to the non-union firm of TBF

## A phrase which hasn't felt the damage

By Michael Parkin

THOSE awful men who take a round of drinks and ask the barman: "What's the damage?" are the dying guardians of a phrase that was in common use in the Sheffield area between 1790 and 1810.

The Centre of English Language Tradition and Learning at Sheffield University has printed *The Hallan Glossary*, a pioneering work by the Rev Joseph Hunt to mark the bicentenary of his birth. The original now worth more than £30 a copy.

Men in bars are no longer custodians of word phrases which Hunt regarded as archaic.

Other survivors in the batch, eyesore, glum, in kidnappers, maul, nick, tiff, tussle and untidy.

But the English language has dropped high-spirited meaning high-spirited lundy—clumsy on a

MAY 1984

## COAL INDUSTRY

# job d up

of March) their final 5.2 per cent pay offer (3 per cent on earnings) will not be backdated to November. This would deprive them of a tidy lump sum at the end of the industrial action.

In the run-up to Christmas, MacGregor floated various ideas to entice the miners out of their overtime ban, but was talked out of making any move by his Board colleagues. With spring not far away, he has come round to the view that the deadlock cannot go on much longer. So far the Board has lost 5.8 million tonnes of coal because of the overtime ban — as much as £80 million in revenue. On the other hand, the miners have lost £56 million in wages.

There are no signs of any trouble with coal stocks. At the power stations they still total 28 million tonnes (1.5 million tonnes higher than the same time last year) and there are a further 23.4 million tonnes at the pitheads.

NUM efforts to extend their action by blockading coal imports and the movement of coal through the active support of the Transport and General Workers and the rail unions also seem unlikely to make much progress.

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or is also believed to be  
y impatient to bring an end  
r's overtime ban that has  
on since 1 November. He is  
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ould involve warning them  
they ended the overtime  
tain date (perhaps the end

# Micro threat to GCHQ triggered ban

by JULIAN ALLASON and DANIEL MAY

THE Government's Cheltenham spy centre is threatened by a patent application from a Barnsley computer firm.

And the Ministry of Defence has slapped a Secrecy Order on JCL Data's anti-copying technique, believed by computer industry sources to be very similar to one secretly developed by the Government Communications Headquarters.

GCHQ is concerned that if the technique is patented, details could readily be bought by other commercial users and, more ominously, by the Soviet bloc.

It was the exposure of spy Geoffrey Prime that first alerted GCHQ to the copying of key computer tapes. Prime had freely been able to take away documents, copy them and return them unnoticed. Tapes were also said by employees to have gone missing from GCHQ's Hong Kong branch.

Now GCHQ is worried not only that the JCL breakthrough could enable the Soviets to create their own anti-copying protection, but that they might also be able to 'reverse engineer' it in such a way to deactivate the blocking device.

'The system works like a lock,' JCL managing director, James Lamont, told *The Observer*. 'Compared with other systems it is cheap. It is not a code, more of an imprint. It means you can

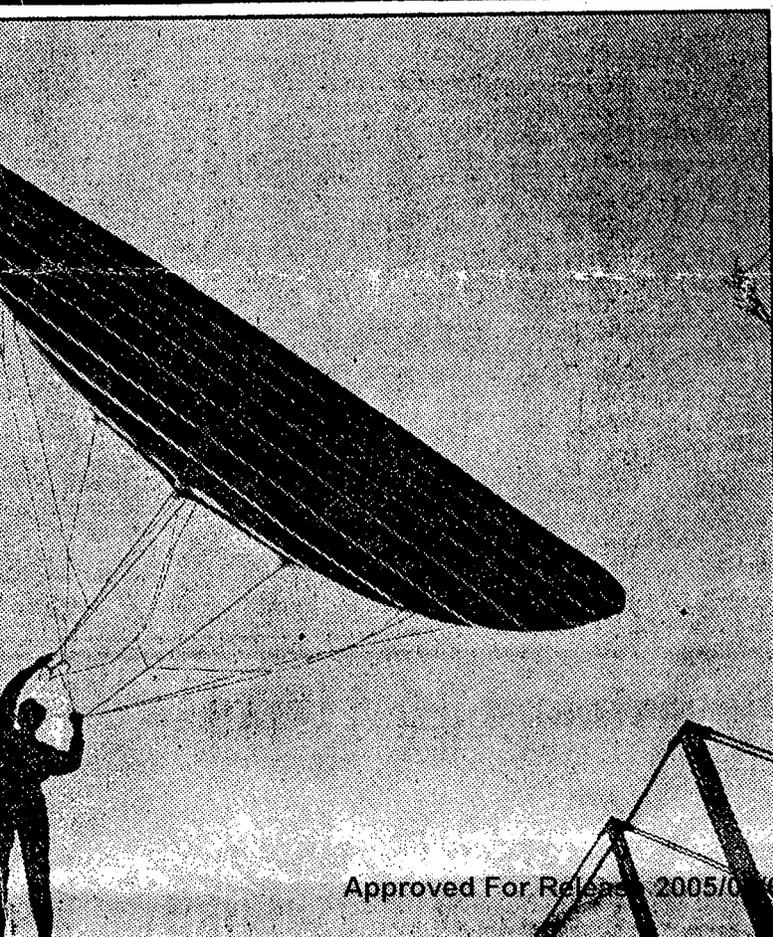
make data safe from prying eyes.'

Lamont's method — also said to protect information transmitted on new generation fibre optic telephone lines — is understood to protect data during transmission through the insertion of a special signal.

It is likely that GCHQ and the American National Security Agency have been attempting to develop the same techniques for some years with the help of large mainframe computers. JCL, on the other hand, can probably thank fast microchip technology—and an appreciable amount of luck — for hitting on a technique so close to that used by GCHQ.

Faced with a growing problem of computer piracy, involving the theft of everything from games to sales projections, commercial companies are prepared to pay thousands of pounds for effective techniques such as the one developed by JCL.

But the new JCL technique is in a different league having inadvertently stepped into the twilight world of electronic espionage. The MoD now has until 17 July 1985 to decide whether to lift the ban on JCL's software. The alternative will be for the Government to go to Barnsley and strike a deal to buy the invention direct from the inventor.



*The Times*  
20 Jan 81

# US demand for introduction of lie-detectors blamed

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Civil Service union leaders last night branded the Government's proposed buy-out of union membership at GCHQ "Judas money" and predicted that it would be rejected by 3,000 members.

They said that the Foreign Secretary's reasons were "a lie" and the official version a cover-up for American pressure on the Cabinet to break union resistance to the introduction of lie-detectors into sensitive defence installations.

The Council of Civil Service Unions is demanding an early meeting with Mrs Thatcher in her role as head of the Civil Service to try to dissuade the Government from going ahead with de-recognition of the five unions.

The TUC will be brought into the dispute today.

Mr John Sheldon, general secretary of the Civil Service Union, which has the largest number of GCHQ members, described the ex-gratia payment offered by Sir Geoffrey as "an offensive bribe". "They already have the loyalty of these people. It was proved in 1981, when despite the pay dispute all security work at Cheltenham

continued. To offer them £1,000 must suggest that it is unpatriotic to belong to a trade union, and that it is a despicable downright lie. Trade union members are just as patriotic and loyal as any other civil servants."

Union leaders were called to the Cabinet office yesterday afternoon to be told of the Foreign Office move.

The head of the civil service,

Sir Robert Armstrong, cited the implications of the lengthy 1981 strike by civil servants as justification.

Mr Sheldon said: "This is a cover-up. The real reason for the announcement is that they are having pressure put on them to introduce the polygraph, to which we are opposed on the grounds of interference with civil liberties. It is the USA putting the pressure on the Government about its security system."

Mr Alastair Graham, general secretary of the largest Whitehall union, the Civil and Public Services Association, said: "I would have expected this from General Jaruzelski in Poland, but not from a Prime Minister of a democratic state. I do not believe that people's civil and trade union liberties can be bought for £1,000."

The union believes that ministers think the access enjoyed by full-time union officials to their members at GCHQ is a potential security hazard as they are not positively vetted. But nearly three years ago, union leaders were warned that the United States and other

Continued on back page, col 1



## GCHQ union ban blamed on pressure from US

Continued from page 1

Nato allies were unhappy that a national one-day stoppage and further industrial sanctions at Cheltenham and the tracking station at Bude in Cornwall would damage strategic cover of signals traffic and hamper the surveillance of Soviet warships.

In their announcement on March 8, 1981, the unions said: "There will be a range of selective and disruptive action which will affect Britain's secret communications surveillance network. There will be both national and international repercussions."

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, is to meet leaders of the civil service unions this morning. Last night, he said: "This decision by the Foreign Secretary, made without consultation or advance notice to unions whatsoever, is

an appalling and unacceptable denial of basic rights.

"Civil servants, whatever their work, deserve and require the protection of the union and proper union representation just as much as other workers.

"It is grossly offensive for the Foreign Secretary to imply that the fact of trade union membership poses any threat to national security. If there are or may be problems of any sort the Foreign Secretary should spell out what they are and discuss them with unions concerned, not jump to the most extreme measure possible.

"The offer of a tame, state-controlled union, backed up by £1,000 bribes, is no alternative to the right of genuine trade union membership.

The Government has set a deadline of March 1 for GCHQ employees to accept the ex-gratia payments.

## The quiet life of MI5 man on spying charge

Continued from page 1

Bettaney had few other interests and distanced himself from the stormy student politics. After taking his first degree Mr Bettaney began post graduate work for a B Lift with a study of Shakespearean quotations in Dr Johnson's dictionary, but abandoned it in 1975 after discovering another researcher was well ahead of him.

He was elected president of the college's small Middle Crinmon Room.

Dr Fleeman said: "He went off to join the Ministry of Defence or that is the implication of what he said." Mr Bettaney had a spell in Northern Ireland and Dr Fleeman last saw him last year. "He said he was back in London and

might try to pick up his research again. He seemed remarkably unchanged, just a little bit older."

Dr Fleeman said: "I do not think in retrospect that there was anything that stood out about him. He gave a strong impression of dependability and of being a man who was entirely trustworthy".

In Stoke yesterday, his aunt, Mrs Elsie Bettaney, who took an interest in him after his parents died, refused to talk to reporters. Earlier, she told one national newspaper that he used to telephone her regularly, sometimes saying he might be out of touch for two or three weeks.

Mrs Bettaney said that her nephew was a regular churchgoer and had no girlfriends.

21 Sept '83



# Quiet life of MI5 man on spying charge

By Stewart Tendler, Arthur Osman and Nicholas Timmins

Michael Bettaney, the MI5 officer charged with espionage this week, has lived the quietest of discreet, suburban lives on the outskirts of south London for the past few years.

His next-door neighbours in Victoria Road, Coulsdon in Surrey never learnt the name of the bachelor who lived alone at No 5, let alone any clue to his occupation.

Yesterday, as investigators searched the beige-painted house, few people in the road could offer more than a thumbnail sketch of the well-built man sometimes seen setting off for the station at 7.30am with his briefcase.

The neighbours who spoke of Mr Bettaney were not even aware that he was the man who appeared in court at Horseferry Road on Tuesday, although some noticed considerable activity at the house on Friday and Saturday after Mr Bettaney was charged.

Mr Bettaney, an Oxford University English graduate, moved to the road of small terraced houses about three or four years ago after working in Northern Ireland. He is reported to have paid £22,000 for his two-bedroom home.

Always polite to his neighbours, Mr Bettaney rarely entered into conversation and appeared to spend long periods away. One neighbour sent him a card last Christmas, but did not see him until March, when Mr Bettaney thanked the man in the street.

Mr George Day, who lives opposite, asked Mr Bettaney in

for a drink last Christmas Day and found his neighbour discussed little apart from the weather and golf. Mr Day said that he was "a nice, friendly man - he always waved when he saw us."

Mr Bettaney was seen sometimes at a local public house, sitting alone with a drink and a newspaper. But he seemed to have few hobbies. At weekends, he was always dressed in suit, collar and tie.

The house was neat and tidy, although Mr Bettaney took little trouble with his small back garden, which is overgrown.

Mr James Hammond, his next-door neighbour, said: "We sometimes saw him coming home at six or seven in the evening but then you might not see him for weeks. "Sometimes Mr Bettaney would return with friends and the Hammonds could hear loud classical music."

Known to be a devout catholic, Mr Bettaney, displayed a crucifix and a religious statuette in his home, but was not known as a parishioner at any local church.

Yesterday at Pembroke College, Oxford, where Mr Bettaney went up in 1969, his devotion was remembered by Doctor David Fleeman, his tutor, who said that Mr Bettaney "used to have great ding-dongs in college with a contemporary who intended to be an Anglican priest. It was a sort of great game and I used to rag him about it but he was unshakable in his beliefs".

Mr Bettaney had previously attended Longton High School, Stoke. Both his parents are dead.

Mr Bettaney came, said Dr Fleeman, from a humble background and proved to be "reliable, diligent, hard-working student". After taking a first in the first year exams, he was given a college scholarship and eventually earned a respectable upper second class degree in 1972.

A member of the university's Officer Training Corps, Mr

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Michael Bettaney (above), the MI5 officer charged with spying, lived quietly at No 5 Victoria Road, Coulsdon.